

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

U.S. Post Office

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

301 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland, 21613

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC☐ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☒ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

U.S. Postal Service, Eastern Region

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 8601

CITY, TOWN

Philadelphia, Pa. 19101

___ VICINITY OF

attn: C.A. Preston, Jr.

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☒ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust, Shaw House

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION

D-347

CONDITION		CHECK ONE		CHECK ONE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE		
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED	DATE _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED				

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The current building is the result of three separate construction periods. The original was completed in 1917 and occupied by the Post Office in 1919. It was enlarged in 1935 when the rear of the building was extended and a loading platform added. A final change came when both the rear and side were enlarged in 1966. The original and 1935 addition have brick foundations while the latest addition utilized a poured concrete foundation. The original building had small sections of balustrades on the roof line and long steps that crossed the front of the building. The steps were removed in 1935 and the portico was added. It appears that the balustrades were removed in 1966 and replaced with yellow brick. The main facade is yellow brick laid in common bond. The limestone, boxed cornice is carried out in all three buildings. The double hung wood windows vary from 12 over 12 lights, to six over nine and six over 12.

The interior was completely "modernized" in 1966 and has no resemblance to the original.

Original plans are available for study as is a rather complete collection of photographs of all three construction efforts.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1919

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

James Wetmore

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main area of significance centers on the building as a major structure in a downtown, "main street" complex and on the edge of a potentially historic district. The main street area runs from Court and Spring out to Locust and then down Popular. The brick roadway of Spring Street has been maintained from Locust Street east to the river and is lined with a number of late nineteenth century homes that have the potential for an historic district.

Architecturally, the building serves as an example of an attempt by the government during the WI period to provide local communities with architecturally significant buildings. The additions have not altered the basic appearance of the structure and the 1935 construction actually enhanced it. The removal of the balustrades was probably a mistake, but the building remains architecturally significant for the town of Cambridge. A careful search may indicate that this is the only structure of its kind in Cambridge.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATAACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 125' x 250'

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Joseph P. O'Grady

ORGANIZATION

Joseph P. O'Grady and Associates

DATE

2/2/1980

STREET & NUMBER

307 French Road

TELEPHONE

AC 215, 353-4040

CITY OR TOWN

Newtown Square

STATE

Pa.

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D-347

1003473201

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Cambridge Post Office

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

301 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

___ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Dorchester

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

___ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
___ STRUCTURE
___ SITE
___ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
___ PRIVATE
___ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

___ IN PROCESS
___ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
___ UNOCCUPIED
___ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
___ YES: RESTRICTED
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED
___ NO

PRESENT USE

___ AGRICULTURE
___ COMMERCIAL
___ EDUCATIONAL
___ ENTERTAINMENT
☒ GOVERNMENT
___ INDUSTRIAL
___ MILITARY
___ MUSEUM
___ PARK
___ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
___ RELIGIOUS
___ SCIENTIFIC
___ TRANSPORTATION
___ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

U. S. Post Office

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

21613

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

D-347

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This post office, although built in the 20th century, employs classical details. It is basically a one story rectangular brick structure with a more recent addition on the rear, plus an addition on the south side, continuing the same size and material of the original portion of the building. There are five bays in the front. Above the double glass door is a round arch with ornamental radials. Identical arches are used above the two windows on either side of the door. In front of the door is a pedimented portico, supported by four corinthian columns. Slightly above the windows in the end bays are recessed rectangles. The cornice is just below the roofline and is ornamented by a meander pattern and repeated floral motif.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

D-347

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> REHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This building is not architecturally or historically significant.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

12/4/75

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Route 3, Box 32

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Cambridge,

Maryland

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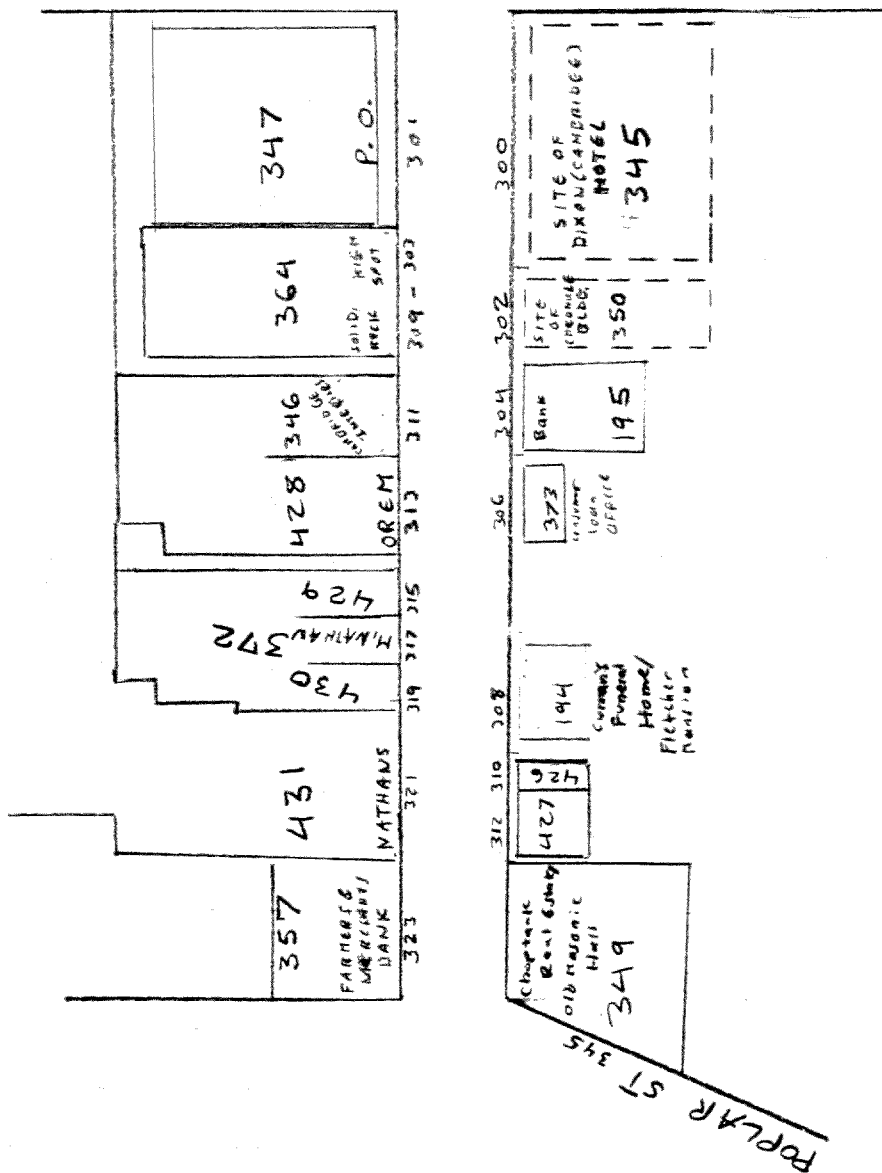
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The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

D-347

J. KOZLAY
12/21/93

HIGH STREET
E- (300 BLOCK)





On April 20, 1912, The Sixty-second Congress, Second Session (Calendar 582, Senate Report 641) authorized the secretary of the treasury to purchase a site in Cambridge and erect a building to be used as a United States Post Office.

The site selected was located at the southwest corner of Church and High streets. The building shown in this May 10, 1916 photograph was located northeast of the High Spot restaurant and housed the photography studio of Charles E. Finley (109 High Street) and the insurance office of Edwin Dashiell (107 High Street). The building was demolished to make room for the new post office. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe



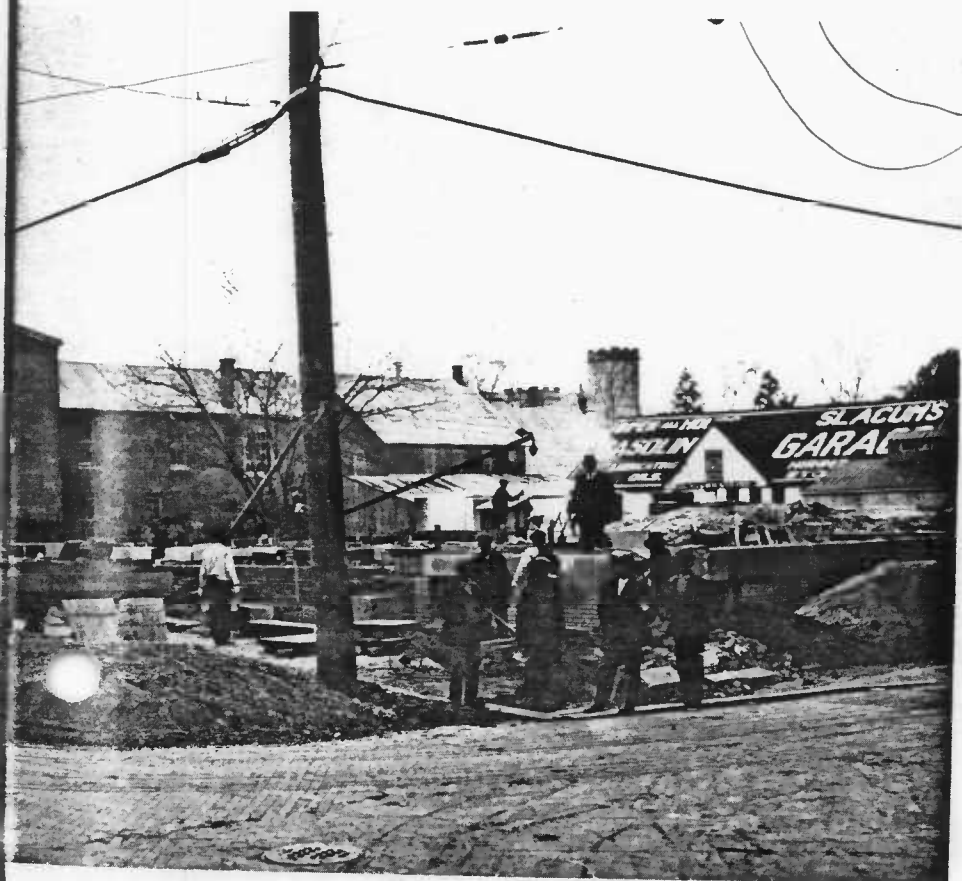
CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND. MAY 10, 1916

In this southeast view from the rear of Christ Episcopal Church on Church Street, it is obvious that the post office lot was used as a shortcut to the business district. The Hotel Dixon and the Daily Banner office are visible on High Street; the Standard Steam Laundry building, which was located at 111 High Street, was demolished and removed in 1916.



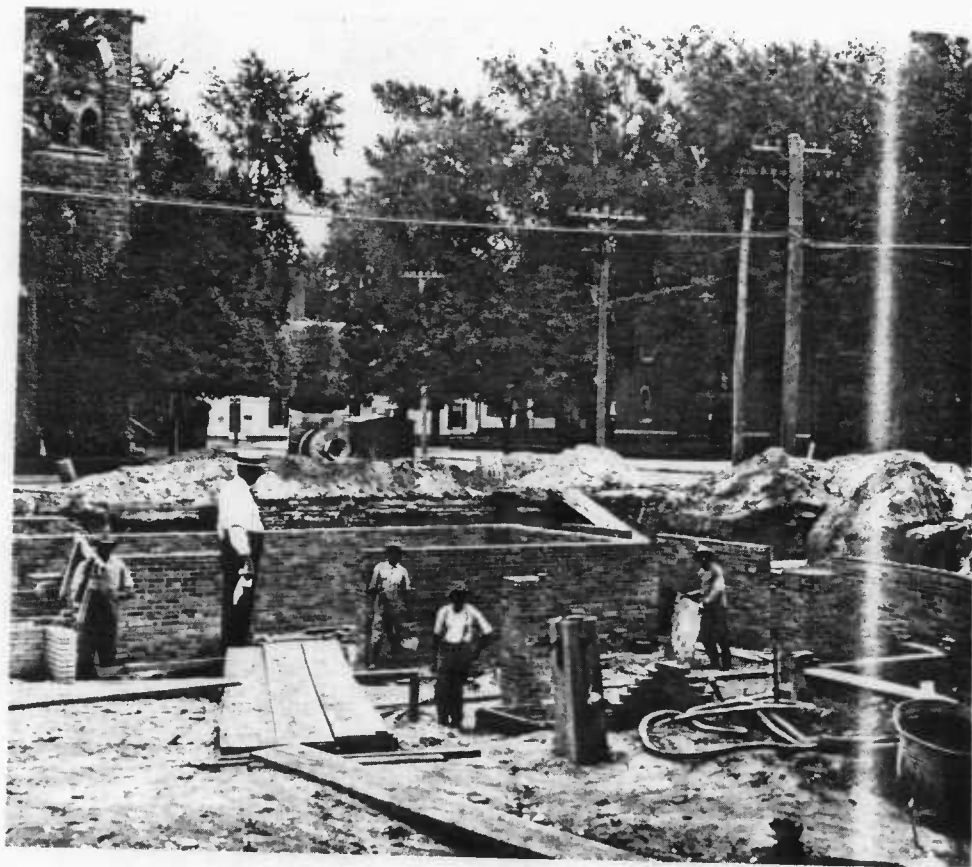


On August 1, 1917, the post office basement excavation was complete; aiming his camera and using a laborer to show scale, the photographer documented the construction progress. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe



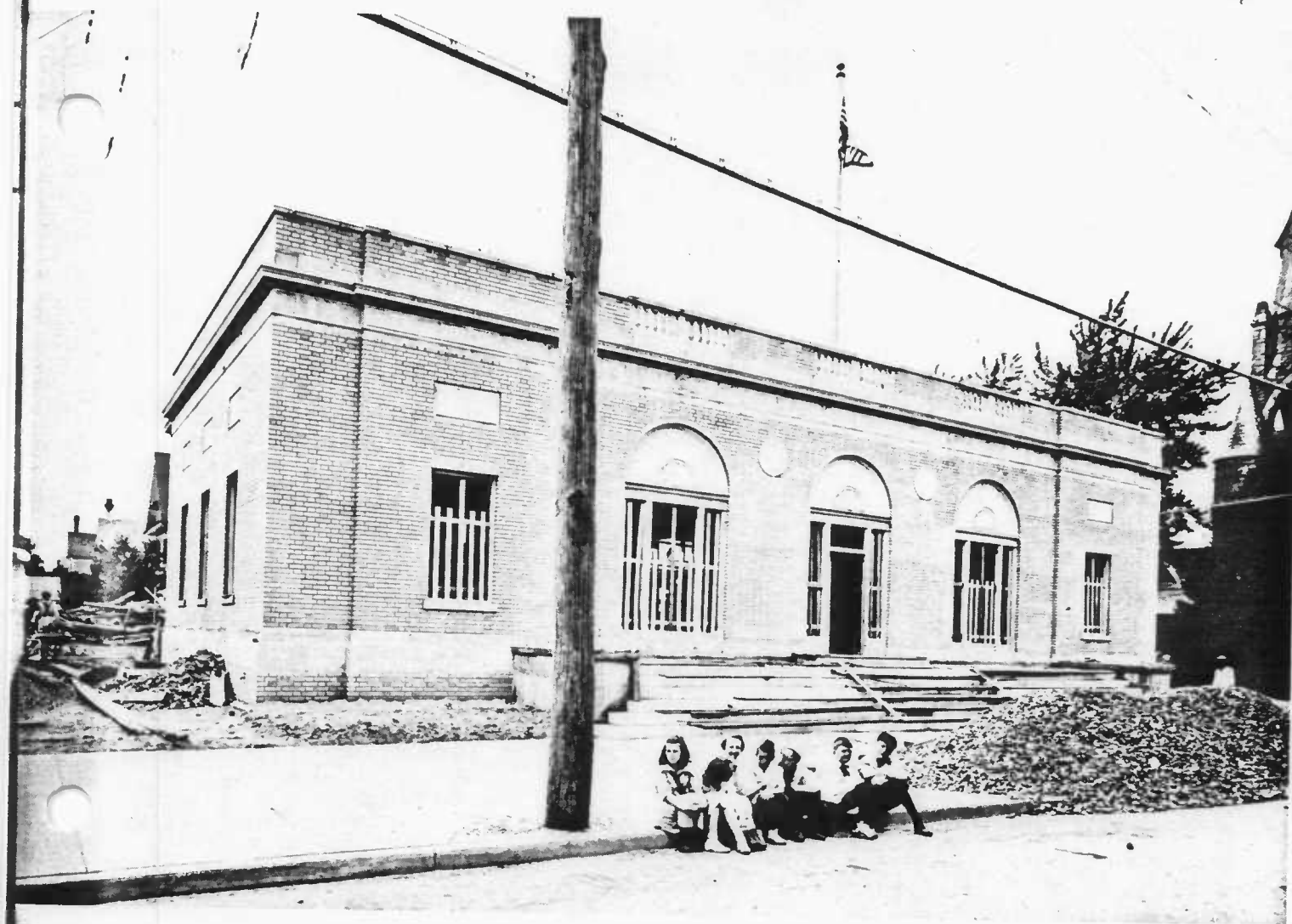
On November 1, 1917, the basement and first-floor foundation were nearing completion. This photograph was taken from the intersection of Church and High streets, looking west; the Zion Church tower and Loney Slacum's garage can be seen in the background. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe

An unidentified construction supervisor suspiciously eyes the photographer. This September 1917 view, looking east towards the courthouse, shows the Court Lane Building before it was veneered with brick. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe

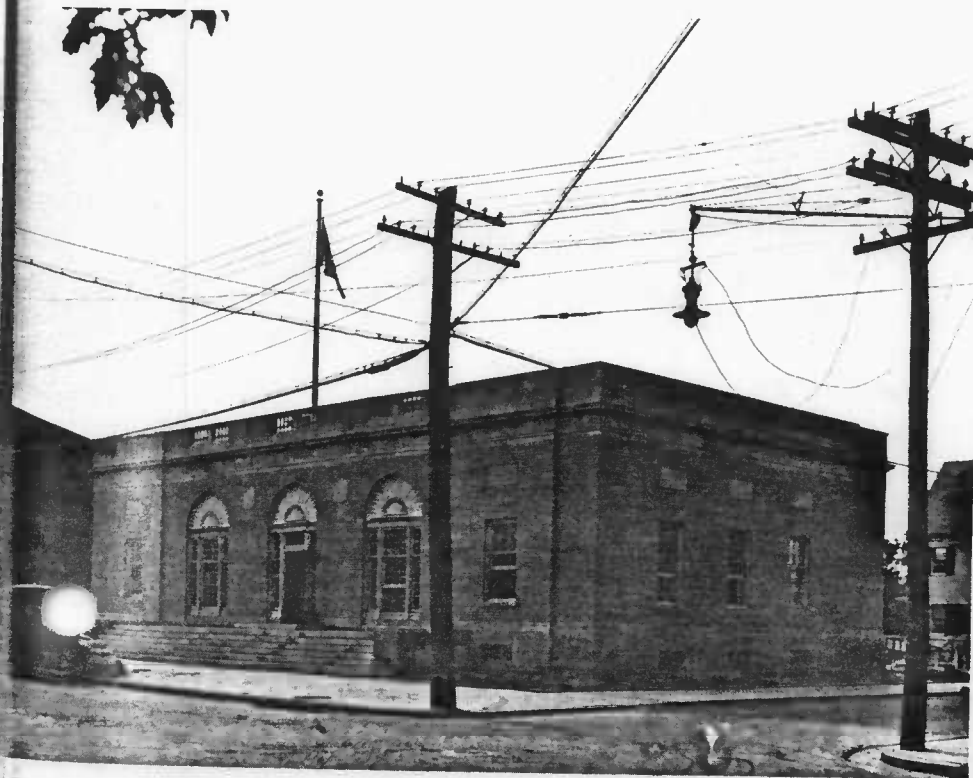


Looking south across High Street, the front facade of the Chronicle Building and the delivery truck used by C. R. Corkran, confectioner, can be seen. The picture was taken October 1, 1917. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe





Seven neighborhood children seated themselves on the High Street curb and became part of this June 1, 1918 picture. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe



The newly completed post office is shown. Courtesy of Morley Jull collection

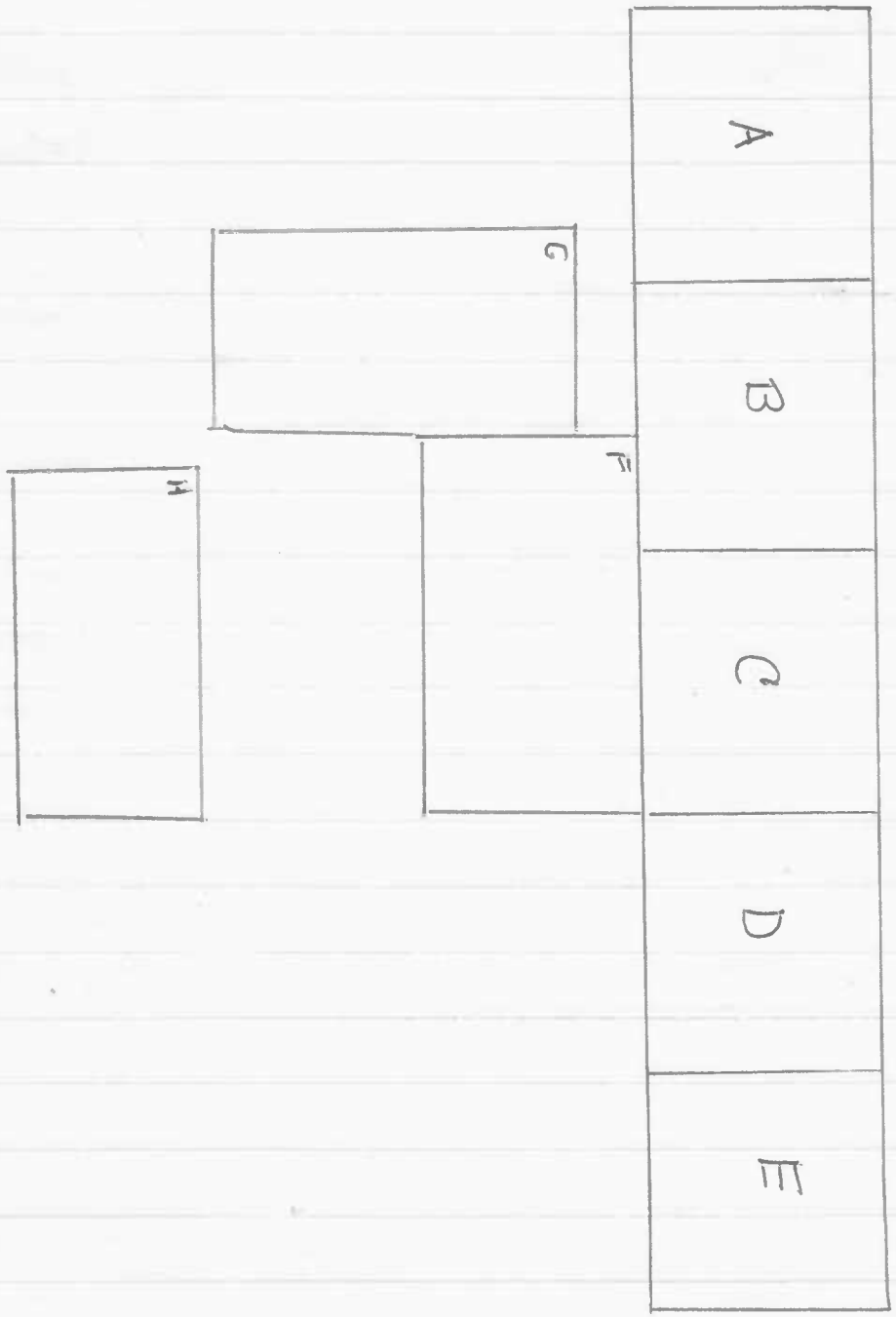


1934-35 the Cambridge Post Office building was extended toward the west, and the interior was remodeled. This photograph, taken on January 1, 1935, shows the excavation for the new basement; the High Spot building is in the background.

The front steps were narrowed, and a portico with columns was added. All of the fine interior woodwork was removed. Courtesy of Thomas B. Radcliffe



Cambridge Maryland
Pluto Forest





A









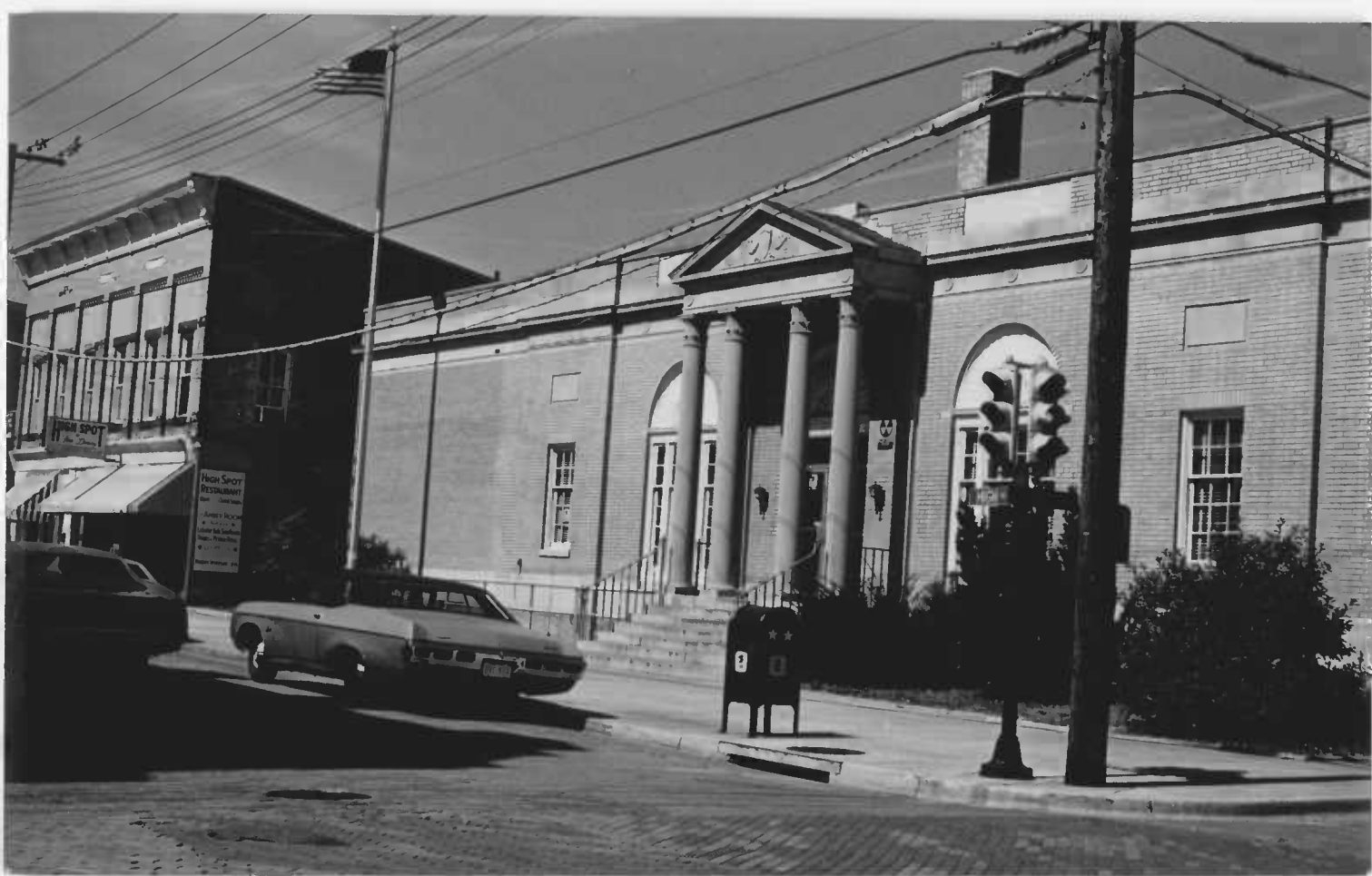








H



301 HIGH ST, CAMBRIDGE, MD. - EAST FACADE - CIL MOORE, 1976

D-347

48%